

"N.B. - Darling - wonderheart - today I sent you a letter that means much to us - I mean the one in which I told you I had gotten a telegram from a private detective I told you about - to the effect that he had proof that settles Ian Smythe definitely - and for all times - he will not try to bother you again."

This is apparently a forged entry. At the time the diary and letters from Hall were sold by the Mills family to the New York American four years ago this entry was generally believed to have been added in order to lead other newspapermen off the track. Investigation has produced nothing to indicate that the entry is genuine. Mrs. Hall read the letters and diary for the first time about three weeks ago. She informs me that the incidents referred to in them occurred and their authorship by Hall seems to be established for that reason.

Apparently Hall and Mrs. Mills had agreed that each of them would keep diaries during his vacation and would exchange them upon his return. Mills states that one day (date uncertain), while he was having a "scuffle" with his wife, he tore a page out of her diary and that she then threw the diary in the fire. At all events Mrs. Mills' diary was never found. Several of the letters from Hall to Mrs. Mills were written after the return of Mr. and Mrs. Hall from Islesford to New Brunswick on August 25th. These letters are undated and are mostly signed "D.T.L." - German for "Your true love". There is no reference whatsoever in Hall's letters to Mrs. Mills, or his diary, to James Mills. There is, however, reference to the Parker home, Easton Avenue, rides and walks together. Hall's letters to Mrs. Mills and Hall's diary were found in the Mills' house some time after the murders by Charlotte, presumably, and taken by her to her aunt, Mrs. Elsie Barnhart, at Paterson, N.J. Mrs. Barnhart seems to have been the favorite sister of Mrs. Mills. Subsequently these letters and notes were sold to the New York American. The notes from Mrs. Mills to Hall, undated, unsigned and without salutation, but identified as being in her handwriting, were found between the bodies. They contain frequent references to Mills, showing Mrs. Mills' fear of her husband. (See below for analysis of notes and quotations therefrom.) The exchange of notes and meetings of Hall and Mrs. Mills seem to have been quite frequent during the week or ten days preceding the murders.

As was their custom for two or three years previously, Mr. and Mrs. Hall took Mrs. Minna Clark and Mrs. Mills on a picnic to Lake Hopatcong on Sunday, September 13th. Mrs. Hall, Sr. also went. This was done by the Halls to show their appreciation of the work of Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Mills at the church during the year. Mills states that his wife said nothing to him about Mrs. Hall's attitude toward her on the trip, but Charlotte says that her mother told her that Mrs. Hall had given her a "killing look" that day. Mrs. Mills got home about 9:00 P.M. on the 13th. Mills states that on that evening, which was the night

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